

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1 and 8 have been amended. Claims 2-7 and 9-14 have been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 15-21 have been added.

Claims 1, 8, and 15-21 are pending and under consideration.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS:

In the Office Action, at page 2, claims 5 and 8 were objected to. Because claim 5 has been cancelled, the objection thereto is hereby rendered moot. Claim 8 has been amended to improve clarity of the claim recitations. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to the claims be withdrawn.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102:

In the Office Action, at page 2, claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,337,712 to Shiota et al. ("Shiota"). This rejection is traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Shiota generally describes a system for storing and utilizing picture image data recorded by digital camera. See abstract. According to Shiota, "means for determining a file name using the camera code to identify the digital camera used for recording the image data, the possessor code representing the possessor of the digital camera, the date code representing the date of recording, or the like, is possible." (Column 3, lines 41-45). Further, the file name can be determined by a combination of information such as the type code and the product number code of a digital camera. (Column 6, lines 17-21).

However, Shiota is silent as to teaching or suggest, "identifying a type of said digital camera by reading information pre-stored in at least one of said memory of the digital camera and said digital camera; selecting a reading method corresponding to said identified type of said digital camera," as recited in independent claim 1. Rather than using the file name to select a reading method, the file name is used to identify the digital camera. In addition, Shiota is silent as to teaching or suggesting, "reading, at said shop, a photographed image data stored in said memory of said digital camera using said selected reading method corresponding to said identified type of said digital camera," as recited in independent claim 1.

Independent claims 8, 15, 18, and 21, which include recitations similar to those of claim 1, although of different scope, are also submitted to be patentable in view of Shiota.



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In addition, independent claim 16 recites, "determining whether a transfer service is to be charged for the preserving using the ID data read." Nothing in Shiota teaches or suggest that the file name may be used to determine "whether a transfer service is to be charged," as recited in independent claim 16.

Independent claim 19, which includes recitations similar to those of claim 16, although of different scope, is also submitted to be patentable in view of Shiota.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that independent claims 1, 8, 15, 16, 18, and 21 and related dependent claims be allowed.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the prior art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned attorney for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 8, 2004
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By: Carol Pils
Date: March 8, 2004